

## *Village Historian's Report for 2016-17*

Fayetteville has several anniversaries to celebrate in 2017 – the Erie Canal Bicentennial and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women being allowed to vote in state elections.

Fayetteville has given great support to the volunteers working on various Erie Canal events – a local bicycling trip on the canal towpath centered on Fayetteville and the Fayetteville Feeder and the state-wide Buffalo to Albany bike tour. Plans are also being made for participation in the World Canal Conference in September that will draw visitors from many nations as well as local participants.

At all these events, Fayetteville will be able to display photographs, hand out folders and tell the world about the prosperity and growth of this village that came with the canal trade. Digging for the Erie Canal started on July 4, 1817 and a display will be in the Fayetteville Library close to that date.

For women, New York State had already allowed voting in school elections in 1880 and in village charter elections in 1913. Allowing women to vote in all state-wide elections came in 1917, three years before women were allowed to participate in national elections. A display centered on Matilda Joslyn Gage, Fayetteville resident who was a national leader in the women suffrage campaign, was in the Fayetteville Library.

Interest has also been rising in the lime kilns that were along the Fayetteville Feeder and provided a basis for trade and commerce. I spoke to the Fayetteville Parks Commission and have supplied information to them for a sign to explain the operation to visitors.

I also spoke to the village's Historic Preservation Commission about various previous efforts at expanding historic designations and supplied some historic research.

In addition to these topics, I continue to work with a book author about President Grover Cleveland's growing up years in Fayetteville, another researcher about Fayetteville schools and answer questions about various houses in the village.

Fayetteville was part of the display wall I created in the Manlius Town Hall and I enclose copies of the sections directly related to the village.

I continue to attend the Erie Canal Working group that meets each month to coordinate plans for canal events and generate interest in canal maintenance.

I discuss aspects of "history" from time to time with village officials and have supplied seasonal pictures and notes for the village's website. I particularly appreciate the help that everyone provides. I am honored to serve in this non-paid position as village historian.

April 23, 2017

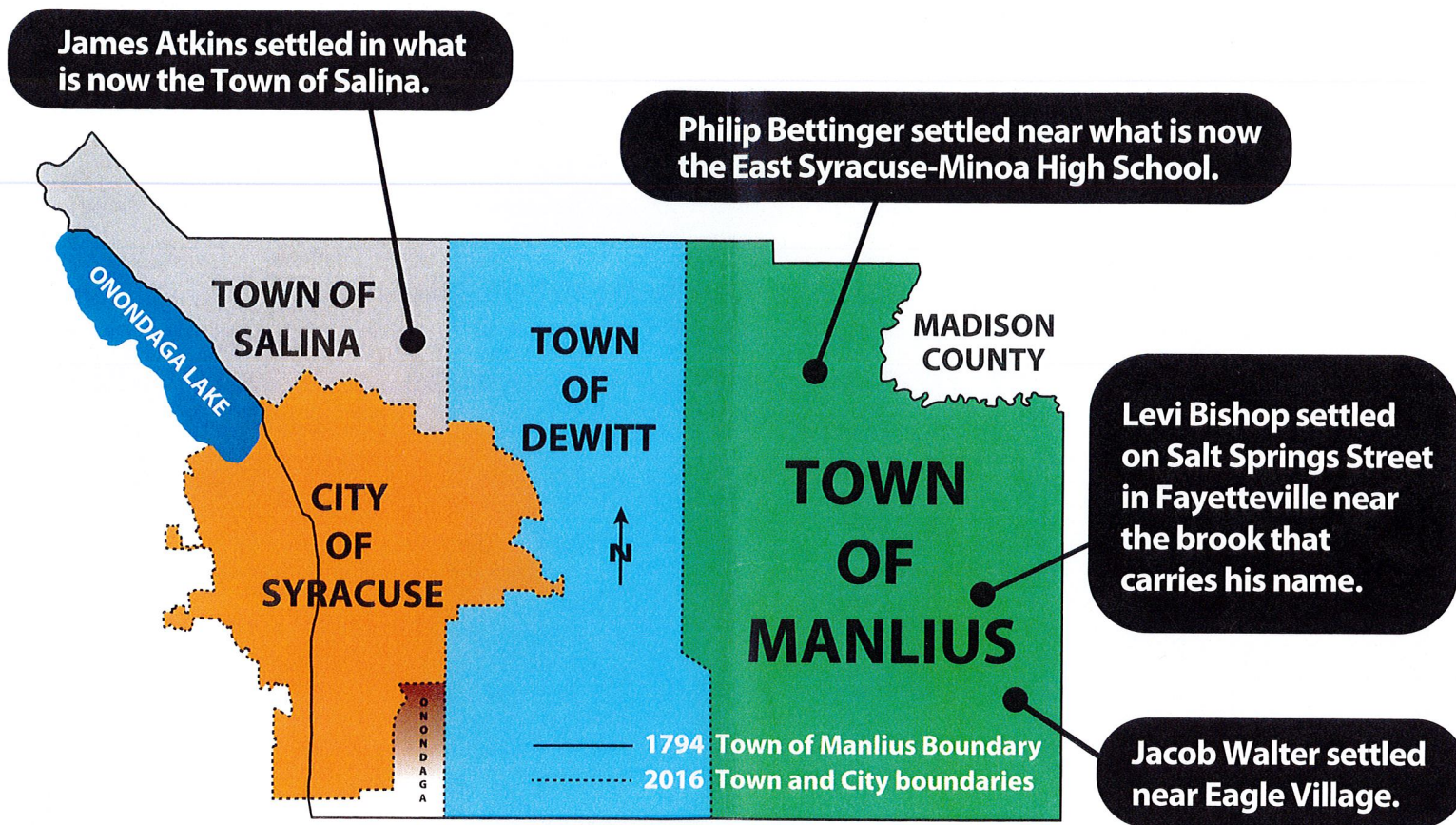
Barbara S. Rivette, Fayetteville Village Historian





Display in the lobby of the Manlius Town Hall, 301 Brooklea Dr., Fayetteville



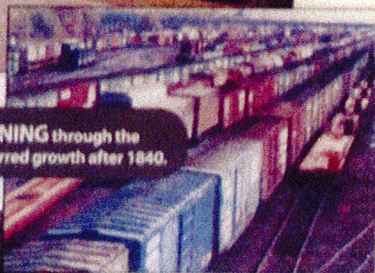


Land in Central New York became the “bonus” promised to men who enlisted in certain New York State regiments and promised to stay on the fighting line until the war was over. Most soldiers sold their bonus rights, but four settled on the bonus land they received in the original Town of Manlius. They were soon joined by many other veterans.





**MINOA** thrived on the railroad and became a village in 1913.



**RAILROADS** RUNNING through the center of the town spurred growth after 1840.



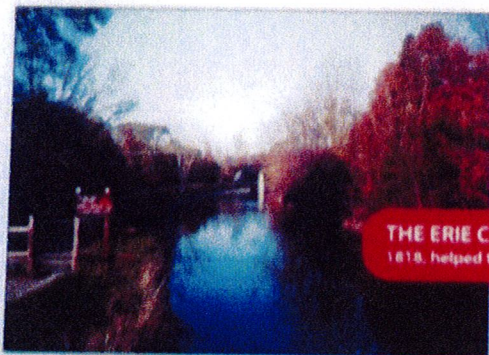
**FREMONT** was an 1840 crossroads that developed after World War II.



**KIRKVILLE** first grew along the Erie Canal and then the railroad.



**FAYETTEVILLE** expanded with the Erie Canal trade and became a village in 1844.



**THE ERIE CANAL**, opened locally in 1818, helped the entire town prosper.

When settlements grew, villages were organized, and communities such as Kirkville and Fremont were formed.

**MANLIUS**, the county's oldest village, was organized in 1813.

